

## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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TO:

**Board of County Commissioners** 

Scott Vargo

Jeff Huntley

FROM:

Eva Henson

RE:

Work Session Meeting of September 25, 2018

DATE:

September 25, 2018

#### Attendees:

Elected Officials: Dan Gibbs, Thomas C. Davidson, and Karn Stiegelmeier – Commissioners Jaime FitzSimons, Sheriff

Staff: Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Thad Noll, Assistant County Manager; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager; Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Julie Sutor, Communications Director; Jaime Woodworth, Ambulance Director; Brian Boivard, Emergency Management Director; Jeremy Voge, Assistance Finance Director and Eva Henson, Administrative Manager.

Guests: Deepan Dutta, Bill Boyd, Sara Kurtz, Jason White, Mike Forsythe, Deb Keating, Jim Keating, Red, White and Blue Fire Protection District Staff, Bryan Webinger, Gary Gallagher, Laura Johnson, Tom Acre, Shannon Haynes, Carolyn Skowyra, Jen Barchers, Michelle Eddy, Mary Hartley, Erin Mumma, Jim Lee, Jim Cox, Jeff Berino, Summit Fire & EMS Staff, Derek Goossen, Daniel Bergbauer, Ty Humphries, Dean Lippert, Kathleen Mayer, Dave Steelz, Paul Kuhn, Bruce Farrell, Matt Scheer, Drew Hoehm, Sam Weller, Tom Wickman, Tim Caldwell, Ryan Roberts, Tyler Brook, Gary Curmode, Jenn Oese, Thomas Resignolo, Samuel Weller, Marshall Denkinger and Kathy Mayer.

I. Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) Update and Presentation Bill Boyd, with ESCI, gave a digital presentation regarding their findings of the operational analysis of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Delivery System in Summit County.

The report contents were reviewed in detail including the following but not limited to:

- Organization & System Overview (data from 2015-2017)
  - o Summit County
  - o Summit County EMS Provider Organizations
  - o Air Ambulance Service
  - o Training Center
  - o Service Area
  - Emergency Communications
  - o Medical Direction & Medical Control
  - Hospitals & Clinical Facilities
  - EMS Operations & Deployment
     Operational & Administrative Staffing
- Operational & Administrative Staffing

- Financial Analysis
  - Financial History
  - o Financial Summary
  - Estimated Costs of EMS Transport
- Capital Facilities, Vehicles & Equipment
- Service Delivery & Operational Performance
  - Service Demand Study call frequency, medic unit service-demand and concurrent incidents
  - o Distribution Study
  - o Response Reliability Study
  - o Performance Summary
  - o Patient Transport Analysis
  - o Patient Demographics & Characteristics
  - o Incident Data Discussion also highlighted challenges with incident data
- Interfacility Transports
- Community Paramedicine Analysis
- Future Service-Delivery Options
  - o Option A Summit Fire & EMS/Summit County Ambulance Service Consolidation
    - Role of Summit County
    - Proposed Organizational Chart
    - Financial Projections (Safety 1st Funds will expire in 2023)
    - Regulatory Components
  - o Option B Status Quo
    - The current infrastructures and operations of the existing Summit County provider agencies would remain the same
    - Summit County Government would issue independent licenses to operate ambulance service
    - Each agency would be responsible for their organization's patient billing and collections, and would retain 100% of the revenue they collect.
    - Share responsibility of out-of-county (OOC) transports, but would have to determine an equitable arrangement
    - OCC transports could be reduced, depending on Centura Health's willingness to establish an ALS ground transport unit(s) in Summit County
  - o ESCI recommended Option A
    - SWOT Summary Interagency relationships, personnel & staffing, EMS operations and miscellaneous issues
- Recommended System Improvements Goals
  - Short-Term Improvement Goals
  - o Mid-Term Improvement Goals
  - o Long-Term Improvement Goals
- Appendices A-F
- Conclusion
  - This report represents the third independent study of the Summit County EMS system by an outside consulting firm, since 2013.

- o ESCI has approached this study from an unbiased perspective, and without any pre-conceived perceptions.
- Intent was to provide key stakeholders with realistic and valid recommendations to ultimately improve the delivery of EMS, and in a configuration that will produce long-term sustainability.
- ESCI found that the key stakeholders, leaders, and elected and appointed officials all have a desire to ensure what is best for Summit County citizens and visitors – although they may disagree on how to accomplish this.
- o ESCI hopes this will be the last study.

The Commissioners opened the discussion for questions and comments to Mr. Boyd.

Commissioners inquired about the following but not limited to:

- Financial data including insurance, Medicare, Medicaid and the financial consequences that
  could be affected in future years to come. Mr. Boyd responded with statistical data and noted
  that the out of county transports and mileage expenses help with some of the costs.
- Projected revenues and what assumptions were made in regards to Gallagher. Mr. Boyd noted that the estimates were conservative and didn't forecast how Gallagher would impact the numbers.
- A countywide universal system and if that could work. Mr. Boyd commented that it could
  potentially happen down the road, but recommended that the organization be stabilized first and
  suggested a slow transition.

Sarah Vaine expressed that these finding could lead to good conversations among the organizations and hoped that it will lead to better solutions and a better system, collaboratively, for our community.

Other comments from the audience including members of Centura, Summit Fire & EMS, Red, White and Blue Fire Protection District and others spoke on the following but not limited to:

- Out of county transports and the out of service time and financial impacts this has on the system
- Open to a variety of options to secure a long-term sustainable system
- Community Partners
- Need Collaboration
- Maintain Quality of Service
- Balance will be key to the success
- Put differences aside and figure out what is best for the community
- Make sure that something is done with this study, unlike the previous studies

Scott Vargo commented that the County is open to the recommendations, but the County will only come to such an important decision when all relevant parties have been consulted. He added that he understood how the uncertainty in agency administration has been hard for staff and promised that the County is looking for a solid solution.

# II. County Financial 2017 Audit Report (Eide Bailly and Finance)

Sarah Kurtz, Eide Bailly, reviewed in depth the 2017 audit report and compliance audit for Summit County's grant programs.

The Commissioners gave comments and inquired about specific details of the reports.

### III. Managers' & Commissioners' Issues

Senior Management and the Commissioners continued various updates on topics including but not limited to:

- Upcoming Colorado Area Ski Towns (CAST) Meeting in Winter Park, CO is Oct 25-26, 2018
- Upcoming Colorado Counties Inc. (CCI) meetings later this week
- Kate Berg, Planning Department, continues to do research on goals pertaining to zero emissions and the Commissioners agreed that staff should continue to work on this.
- The Commissioners also reviewed upcoming calendar events and meetings

## IV. Managers' & Commissioners Issues Continued after Lunch (@ 2:00 p.m.)

 Attorney's Office briefed the Commissioners on legal issues related to Short-Term Rentals

oproved by

an Gibbs, Chair

Respectfully submitted:

Eva Henson, Deputy Clerk